

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 01465 01 OF 02 271301Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 IO-13 RSR-01

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O P 271222Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2295

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BERLIN 1465

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ETRN, WB, FR, UK, UR, GW, GE

SUBJECT: FRENCH CORRIDOR FLIGHT TO SCHOENEFELD

REF: STATE 167937

1. IN OUR VIEW FRENCH SCENARIO OUTLINED REFTTEL WOULD, IF IN FACT ADHERED TO, BE ACCEPTABLE (WITH MODIFICATIONS OUTLINED PARA 6 BELOW) AND CONSISTENT WITH ALLIED THEORY WITH REGARD TO CORRIDOR AND GCZ REGIME. THERE IS NO ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BARTCC PASSING AN AIRCRAFT FLYING ON FLIGHT NOTIFIED IN BASC TO CONTROL OF SCHOENEFELD TOWER, A BCZ AIRFIELD NAMED IN DAIR/P(45)71 SECOND REVISE, AND PASSING SIMILAR AIRCRAFT TO SAY GATOW OR TEGEL TOWER CONTROL. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS ARE THAT FLIGHT TAKE PLACE ONLY AFTER APPROVED BY WESTERN ELEMENTS IN BASC AND UNDER BARTCC CONTROL. IF THESE PRECONDITIONS ARE MET, IT WOULD BE NORMAL FOR FINAL PHASE OF FLIGHT TO TAKE PLACE UNDER CONTROL OF DESTINATION AIRPORT. THIS IS, OR COURSE, PROCEDURE
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01465 01 OF 02 271301Z

UNDER WHICH ALMOST DAILY LOT FLIGHTS ARE CONDUCTED

WITHOUT OBJECTION BY SOVIETS OR ATTEMPTS TO INSERT
GDR INTO BASIC PROCEDURES.

2. VITAL QUESTION IS WHETHER FLIGHT WOULD TAKE PLACE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ABOVE PROCEDURES WITHOUT ANY SOVIET
ATTEMPT TO CLAIM UNACCEPTABLE GDR ROLE. IT CAN BE
ARGUED THAT IMPORTANCE OF FAURE VISIT TO EAST GERMANS
MAKES IT UNLIKELY THAT SOVIETS WOULD MAKE SUCH
ATTEMPT. AS FOR EAST GERMANS, IF THEY HAD OBJECTIONS
WE WOULD EXPECT THAT THEY WOULD MAKE THEM KNOWN WHEN
FRENCH PROPOSE FLIGHT RATHER THAN ATTEMPT SOME LAST-
MINUTE FINAGLE AND RISK EMBARRASSING INCIDENT WITH
FIRST VISIT BY ALLIED OFFICIAL OF SUCH RANK. THESE
ESTIMATES WOULD WELL PROVE INCORRECT, HOWEVER, IN WHICH
CASE MOST LIKELY FORM OF SOVIET ATTEMPT TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION WOULD BE STATEMENT IN BASIC THAT
SOVIET AUTHORITIES WERE GUARANTEEING SAFETY OF FLIGHT
AT GDR REQUEST IN VEIN SIMILAR TO THAT USED IN
CONNECTION WITH NON-FOUR POWER CORRIDOR FLIGHTS IN
LATE FIFTIES AND EARLY SIXTIES. IN EVENT OF SUCH
STATEMENTS OR OF ANY OTHER ATTEMPTS TO FORCE DEVIATION
FROM STANDARD PROCEDURES THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE
CLEAR PRIOR AGREEMENT AS TO ALLIED REACTION. MOST
DESIRABLE WOULD BE STATEMENT THAT UNLESS UNACCEPTABLE
SOVIET STATEMENT WERE IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAWN, FLIGHT
WOULD DIVERT TO TEGEL.

3. KEY ELEMENT IN SCENARIO IS DEGREE OF RELIABILITY
OF FRENCH REACTION IN CONTINGENCY SITUATION, AND FROM
OUR Vantage POINT IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT PERSON OF
FAURE'S STATURE WOULD BE WILLING, IN EVENT OF
SOVIET/GDR CHICANERY, TO IN FACT DIVERT TO WEST BERLIN
WITH CEREMONIAL WELCOME WAITING AT SCHOENEFELD. THUS,
WHILE WE SEE REAL ADVANTAGE IN FLIGHT OF ALLIED
AIRCRAFT TO SCHOENEFELD WITHIN ESTABLISHED CORRIDOR/BCZ
REGIME (WHICH WOULD REAFFIRM THEIR RIGHT TO REACH
ANY BCZ AIRFIELD WITHOUT ACCEPTING GDR CONTROL ON ROUTE)
AND REGARD ALTERNATIVE OF NORTH-SOUTH ROUTING
WHICH WOULD INSERT ALLIED GOVERNMENTAL AIRCRAFT IN BCZ
WITHOUT BASIC ROLE AS EXTREMELY UNDESIRABLE OUTCOME,
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PAGE 03 BERLIN 01465 01 OF 02 271301Z

PROPOSITION STRIKES US AS RISKY UNLESS WE ARE ABLE
TO OBTAIN IRONCLAD GUARANTEES AS TO FRENCH BEHAVIOR
IN CONTINGENCY.

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01465 02 OF 02 271322Z

51

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2296

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BERLIN 1465

4. WHILE WE MAY WISH AT SOME POINT TO THINK ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF AN ENHANCED GDR ROLE IN CORRIDOR/BCZ/BASC REGIME, THERE HAS BEEN NO ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER TO DATE AND PROPOSED FAURE FLIGHT RUNS RISK OF INTRODUCING GDR INTO EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS IN UNCONTROLLED AND NON-DELIBERATIVE MANNER. FURTHERMORE, IF ANY PROBLEMS AROSE FROM THIS FLIGHT WE MIGHT HAVE OPENED OURSELVES TO SOVIET PRESSURE FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION OF AIR ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WE HAVE SO FAR AVOIDED. SUCH A FLIGHT WOULD NOT HELP WITH REGARD TO SOVIET POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS VIA CORRIDORS SINCE FAURE INTENDS USE MILITARY AIRCRAFT AND SOVIETS DO NOT RAISE OBJECTIONS TO MILITARY INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS.

5. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND PARENTHETICAL PHRASE, SECOND SENTENCE PARA 4 REFTEL SINCE LOT CORRIDOR FLIGHTS TO AND FROM SCHOENEFELD ARE CONDUCTED UNDER AUTHORITY OF BASC AND CONTROL OF BARTCC WITHOUT ANY SOVIET OBJECTION.

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01465 02 OF 02 271322Z

6. SHOULD IT BE DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH FLIGHT WE SUGGEST FOLLOWING CHANGES TO SCENARIO PROPOSAL BY FRENCH: A) WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO REQUESTING PERMISSION TO LAND AT SCHOENEFELD SINCE IT IS CERTAINLY OUR POSITION THAT SUCH PERMISSION MUST BE OBTAINED FROM POLITICAL AUTHORITY COMPETENT FOR THE TERRITORY ON WHICH THE AIRFIELD IS LOCATED. B) REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR LANDING COULD OPEN DOOR FOR GDR TO SPECIFY UNACCEPTABLE ATC MODALITIES FOR APPROACH TO SCHOENEFELD AND DATA REQUIRED IS AVAILABLE IN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION PUBLICATIONS (JEPSON'S, ETC.). IN OUR VIEW IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR FRENCH SIMPLY TO INFORM GDR THAT AIRCRAFT WILL BE CLEARED BY BARTCC TO SCHOENEFELD TOWER FREQUENCY AT A POINT 5-8 MILES SOUTH OF HAVEL VOR AT ALTITUDE OF 3,000 FEET. ESTIMATED AND ACTUAL TIME OF TAKEOFF AND ETA SCHOENEFELD WILL BE PROVIDED TO SOVIET ELEMENT BASC. ABOVE IS PROCEDURE USED TO HANDLE LOT FLIGHTS. FRENCH SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL AIRCRAFT ACCEPT ATC INSTRUCTION FROM SCHOENEFELD PRIOR TO ITS RELEASE BY BARTCC. C) WITH REGARD TO DEPARTURE, FRENCH SHOULD SPECIFY THAT AIRCRAFT WILL TAKE OFF WITHIN BLOC CLEARANCE TIME GRANTED BY BASC AND IS TO BE vectored TO POINT 4,500 OVERHEAD SCHOENEFELD WHERE CONTROL WILL BE ASSUMED BY BARTCC. AGAIN THIS IS LOT PROCEDURE.

7. WE LEARNED OVER WEEKEND THAT FAURE HAS POSTPONED HIS VISIT ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF FRENCH LOCAL ELECTIONS AND NO NEW DATE HAS BEEN SET AS YET. FRENCH SOURCE HERE POINTED OUT THAT FAURE HAS GREAT POLITICAL AMBITION AND WISHES TO DEMONSTRATE HIS SKILL IN DEALING WITH EASTERN EUROPE. GIVEN THIS SITUATION, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ONCE FAURE FLIGHT WAS UNDERWAY, HE WOULD CHANCE POLITICAL EMBARRASSMENT BY CHANGING TO TEGEL LANDING IN THE EVENT OF GDR CHICANERY THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHICH WOULD ONLY BE UNDERSTOOD BY A LIMITED NUMBER OF "EXPERTS." KLEIN

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